DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 393 105 CS 215 251

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TITLE Teaching Language Arts: A Student- and Response-Centered Classroom. Second Edition.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-205-17488-4
PUB DATE 96
NOTE 577p.
AVAILABLE FROM Allyn and Bacon, Order Processing, P.O. Box 11071, Des Moines, IA 50336-1071 ($59).
PUB TYPE Guides - Classroom Use - Teaching Guides (For Teacher) (052)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS Cultural Differences; Drama; Elementary Education; Emergent Literacy; *Language Arts; Punctuation; *Reading Instruction; Reading Writing Relationship; Spelling; *Student Centered Curriculum; Teaching Methods; *Writing Instruction
IDENTIFIERS *Diversity (Student); Language across the Curriculum; Media Literacy; Process Approach (Writing); Response to Literature

ABSTRACT

Taking a consistent student- and response-centered approach to literature-based teaching in culturally and linguistically diverse classrooms, this book is designed for use as a main text in undergraduate and graduate language arts methods courses. The book is firmly grounded in current social constructivist learning theory combined with a reader-response perspective toward teaching with literature. Chapters in the book are: (1) Learning and Teaching Language Arts; (2) Children and Language; (3) Language and Cultural Diversity; (4) Emergent Literacy; (5) Listening and Talking; (6) Drama in the Classroom; (7) Teaching with Literature; (8) Reading as a Language Art; (9) The Writing Process; (10) Reading and Writing; (11) Language Conventions: Grammar, Talking, and Writing; (12) Language Conventions: Spelling, Punctuation, and Handwriting; (13) Media Literacy; and (14) Language across the Curriculum. An appendix provides teaching ideas, lesson plans, and lists of children's books that coincide with seasons, events, holidays, and themes. (RS)

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